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CERTIFICATION BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile transmission in accordance with § 1.6(d) addressed to Art Unit 1633, Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 to facsimile no. (571) 273-8300 on the date indicated below.

Date: December 14, 2005By: Mari Kleinendam
Mari Kleinendam**PATENT**

Attorney Docket No. GC560-D1-C1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	Group Art Unit: 1633
Volker Schellenberger <i>et al.</i>)	Examiner: M. Marvich
Serial No.: 10/719,571)	
Filed: November 20, 2003)	
For: Directed Evolution of Microorganisms)	

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED NOVEMBER 17, 2005

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed November 17, 2005, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be made as indicated below. Applicants note that the present Response is being filed within two (2) months of the mailing of the Final Office Action. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that an Advisory Action be provided, if the Claims are not allowed. None of the amendments to the Claims is intended to narrow the scope of any of the amended Claims within the meaning of *Festo*¹. Instructions to amend the Claims begin on page 2, while the Remarks section begins on page 6, and the Conclusion is on page 7.

¹ *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*, No. 95-1066, 2000 WL 1753846 (Fed. Cir. Nov. 29, 2000).